

been excused by the bill. Rep. Wolens said he had no idea that the veto was coming and was not extended the courtesy of engaging in a dialogue concerning the purpose of the bill before the "legislative guillotine" fell.

Student assignments and transfers  
(HB 1543 by Messer)

DIGEST: HB 1543 would have required school districts to attempt to assign all students who attend one elementary school to the same junior high school and all students who attend one junior high to the same high school. If less than 30 percent of an elementary school class were assigned to any one junior high, a student could have transferred to the junior high to which the largest proportion of his or her class had been assigned. Students advancing from junior high to high school would have had similar transfer rights. Also, if less than 100 percent of the students of a junior high who attended the same elementary school were assigned to a single high school, students could have transferred to the high school to which the largest proportion of their elementary school class was assigned. A transfer could have been denied if a court found that it violated federal desegregation requirements or if it displaced a student requesting a transfer under a voluntary desegregation program.

GOVERNOR'S  
REASONS  
FOR VETO:

The Governor said the bill would have imposed arbitrary percentage requirements and cumbersome administrative burdens on school districts. He thought the majority of local school trustees and administrators supported the neighborhood-school concept and said they should retain local control and administrative flexibility in the area of student assignment.

SPONSOR'S  
VIEW:

Rep. Messer was unavailable for comment.

NOTES:

The House Study Group analysis of HB 1543 appeared in the April 15 Daily Floor Report. An analysis of senate amendments to HB 1543 appeared in the May 26 Daily Floor Report.